

Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES

155 US \$2.25



THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!

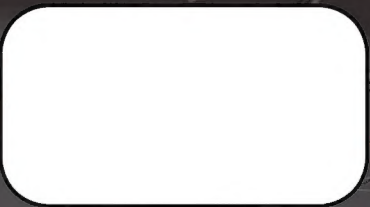
SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG



SATOP

...*Alone*



KNOCK KNOCK

ENTER, COMMANDER!

I'VE BROUGHT YOUR EVENING NIGHTCAR, SIRE!

THANK YOU, ANTOINE.

ZHINGS DIDN'T GO VERY WELL WITH KING LEONUS TODAY, DID ZHEY, SIRE?

THAT'S PUTTING IT MILDLY!

WE'RE HAVING A HARD TIME CONVINCING ANYONE OVER HERE TO JOIN OUR COALITION!

CONSIDERING ROBOTNIK HAS HAD LITTLE INTEREST IN Z ZIS SECTION OF MOBIUS--

--ZAT EES NOT SURPRISING, SIRE!

AHH, ZAT'S IT! DRINK IT ALL DOWN!

IS SOMETHING ZEE MATTER, MY KING?

ALL OF A SUDDEN, YOU DON'T LOOK SO WELL!

I MUST BE MORE TIRED --THAN I THOUGHT!

CAN HARDLY-- KEEP MY EYES --OPEN--

YOU JUST REST, NOW, SIRE, WHILE I STAND GUARD OUTSIDE!

YES-- YOU DO-- THATT-- ZZZZZ...

LITTLE DOES ZEE KING OR ANYONE ELSE SUSPECT--

"--ZAT SOON I WILL RULE OVER ZEE KINGDOM OF ACORN--"

"--AND NOT EVEN ZAT PIG
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
CAN STOP ME!"

SPEAKING OF WHICH,
JUST OUTSIDE OF
KNOTHOLE PROPER,
WE FIND...

SONIC
!

HEY!
I'VE BEEN
LOOKING ALL
OVER FOR
YOU!

Writer: Ken Penders
Artist: James Fry
Inker: Jim Amash
Letterer: John Workman
Colorist: Jason Jensen
Editor: Mike Pellerito
Managing Editor:
Victor Gorelick
Editor In Chief:
Richard Goldwater
Special Thanks to Robert
Leffler and Dyna Lopez at
Sega Licensing

LINE OF SUCCESSION Part One

AWWP!!!

NOT
AGAIN
!!!*

FIONA!

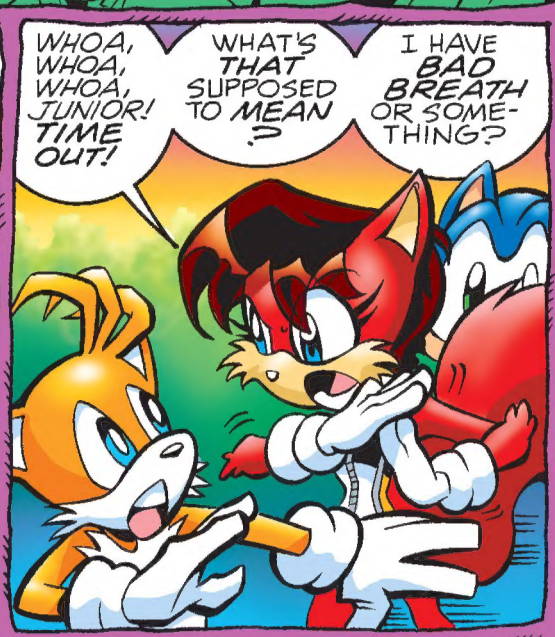
*TAILS IS RE
FERRING TO
A SIMILAR
AWK-
WARD MOMENT AS WITNESSED
RECENTLY IN SONIC # 150



SONIC! I THOUGHT YOU WERE MY FRIEND!

HOW COULD YOU--
--WITH HER--

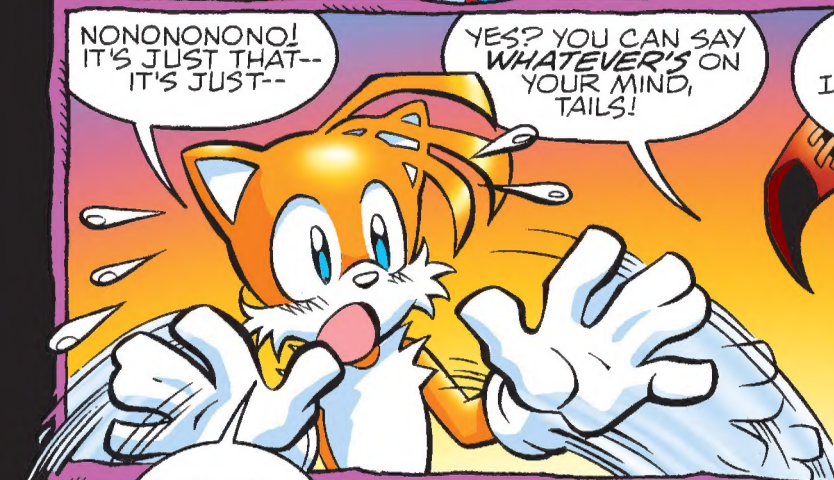
--OUT OF ALL THE FOXES?!



WHOA, WHOA, WHOA, JUNIOR! TIME OUT!

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

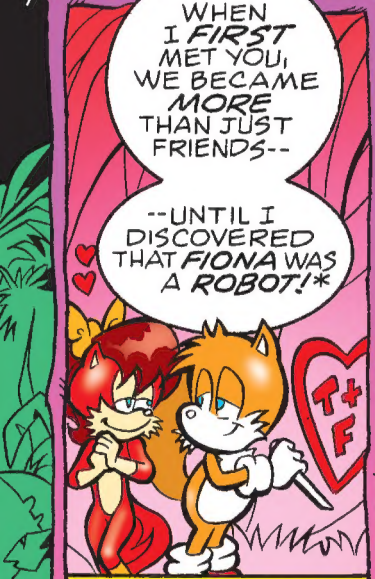
I HAVE BAD BREATH OR SOMETHING?



NONONONONO! IT'S JUST THAT-- IT'S JUST--

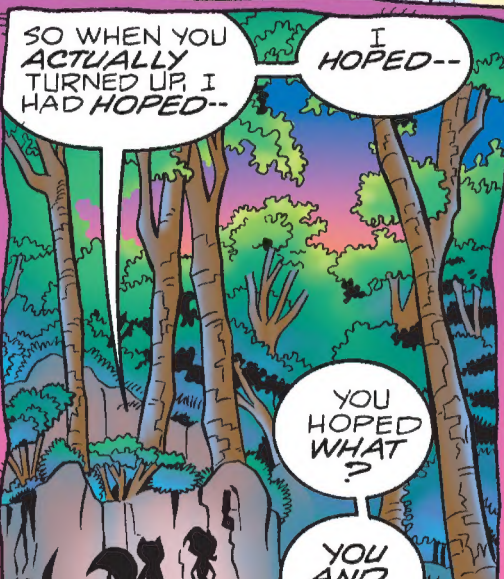
YES? YOU CAN SAY **WHATEVER'S** ON YOUR MIND, TAILS!

YOU'VE BEEN ACTING **STRANGE** EVER SINCE I FIRST MET YOU, AND I'D LIKE TO KNOW **WHY!**



WHEN I FIRST MET YOU, WE BECAME **MORE** THAN JUST FRIENDS--

--UNTIL I DISCOVERED THAT **FIONA** WAS A **ROBOT!***

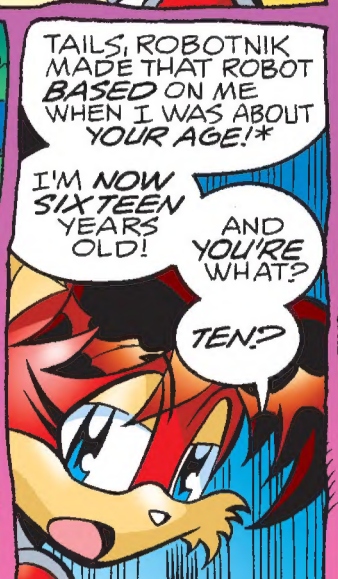


SO WHEN YOU **ACTUALLY** TURNED UP, I HAD **HOPED--**

I **HOPED--**

YOU HOPED **WHAT?**

YOU AND **ME?**



TAILS, ROBOTNIK MADE THAT ROBOT **BASED** ON ME WHEN I WAS ABOUT **YOUR AGE!***

I'M NOW **SIXTEEN** YEARS OLD!

AND YOU'RE **WHAT?**

TEN?

*THE CLASSIC "GROWING PAINS," AS SEEN IN SONIC #28 & #29.

*AS CHRONICLED IN KNUCKLES # 28.

ELEVEN!
BUT YOU
COULD--

SOME-
DAY?

MAYBE--?

TAILS,
I THINK
YOU'RE
A SWEET
BOY--

--AND I
REALLY
LIKE
YOU!

BUT NOT IN A
ROMANTIC
WAY!

IT'S
JUST THAT
I PREFER
BOYFRIENDS
CLOSER TO MY
OWN AGE--

--LIKE
SONIC!

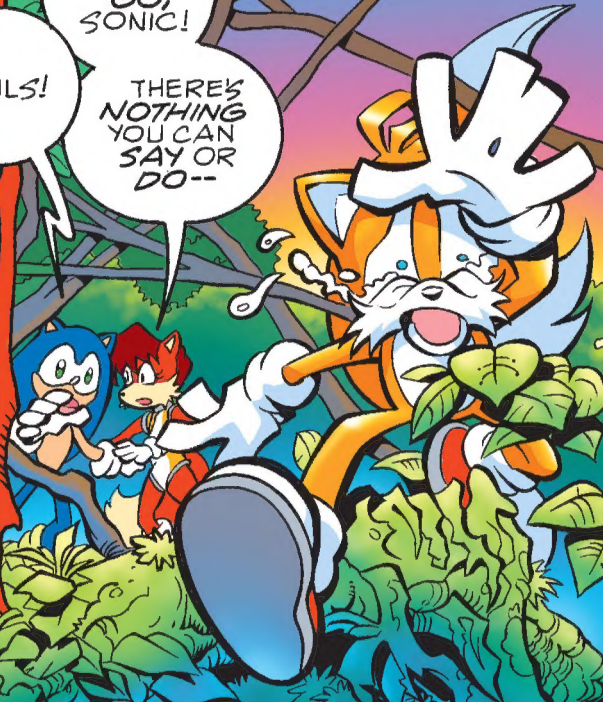
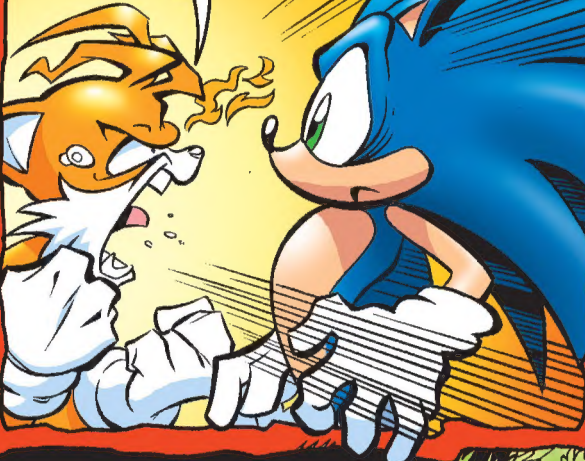


I HATE
YOU!!!

TAILS!

LET
HIM
GO,
SONIC!

THERE'S
NOTHING
YOU CAN
SAY OR
DO--



"--THAT WILL MAKE HIM FEEL ANY BETTER!"

WE'RE COMING UP ON KNOTHOLE, QUEEN ALICIA!

IT'S ABOUT TIME, COMMANDER D'COOLETTE--

--AS I WANT THE KING TO BE EXAMINED BY THE ROYAL PHYSICIAN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

I'VE ALREADY LEFT WORD FOR ZEE DOCTAIR TO BE ON STANDBY, YOUR HIGHNESS!

NOT LONG AFTER, SAFELY ENSCONCED IN THE PALACE...

HAVE YOU ANY IDEA HOW MANY TIMES OVER YOU'D BE DEAD BY NOW IF IT WASN'T FOR ME, MAX?

THE SOURCE ALONE KNOWS WHY I EVEN CONTINUE TO PUT UP WITH YOU, HORATIO!

IN THE MEANTIME, JUST STAY IN BED AND GET PLENTY OF REST!

WHAT ELSE IS THERE TO DO?

LET'S HEAR YOU SAY THAT WHEN ALICIA IS AROUND!

MOST LIKELY DUE TO MY SUNNY DISPOSITION!

COMMANDER, MAKE SURE THE KING TAKES ONE OF THESE WITH EACH MEAL!

YES, DOCTOR!

DOES LIFE GET ANY EASIER ZHAN ZIS?

A FEW HOURS LATER...

IS THIS REALLY NECESSARY, ANTOINE?

THIS IS KNOTHOLE, NOT MOBOTROPOLIS OR SOME OTHER UNFRIENDLY TERRITORY.

ROBOTNIK'S TREACHERY KNOWS NO BOUNDS, MON PRINCESS.

AND I HAVE PLEDGED MY VERY LIFE IN ZEE DEFENSE--

--OF LA FAMILY ROYAL!

YOUR PARENTS AWAIT!

SALLY! IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT, DEAR?

I HAVE TO WONDER, WITH ANTOINE OUTSIDE THIS DOOR!

THE COMMANDER IS JUST DOING HIS JOB!

COME HERE, MY DAUGHTER!

IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU AND MOTHER, DADDY!

I'VE MISSED YOU BOTH SO MUCH!

AS WE HAVE YOU, DEAR.

BECAUSE OF MY HEALTH, SALLY, I'M AFRAID I HAVE TO STEP DOWN!

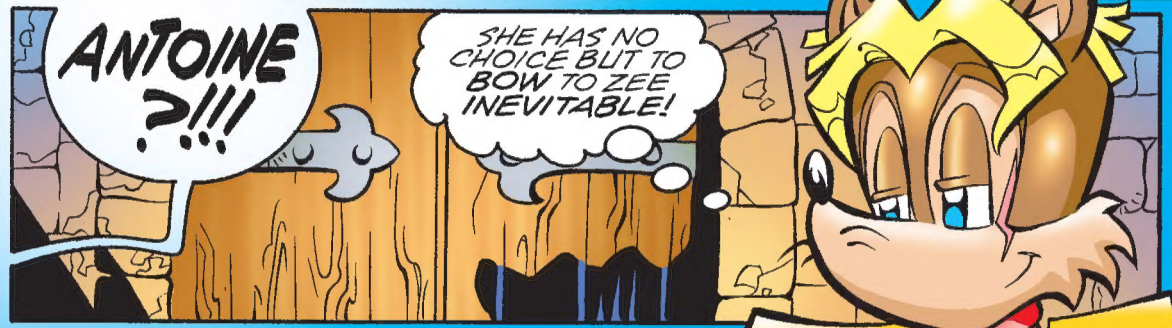
STEP DOWN?!

THE CITIZENS WILL NEED A NEW KING AND QUEEN!

YOU, MY DAUGHTER, ARE ABOUT TO BE ELEVATED TO QUEEN OF OUR KINGDOM--

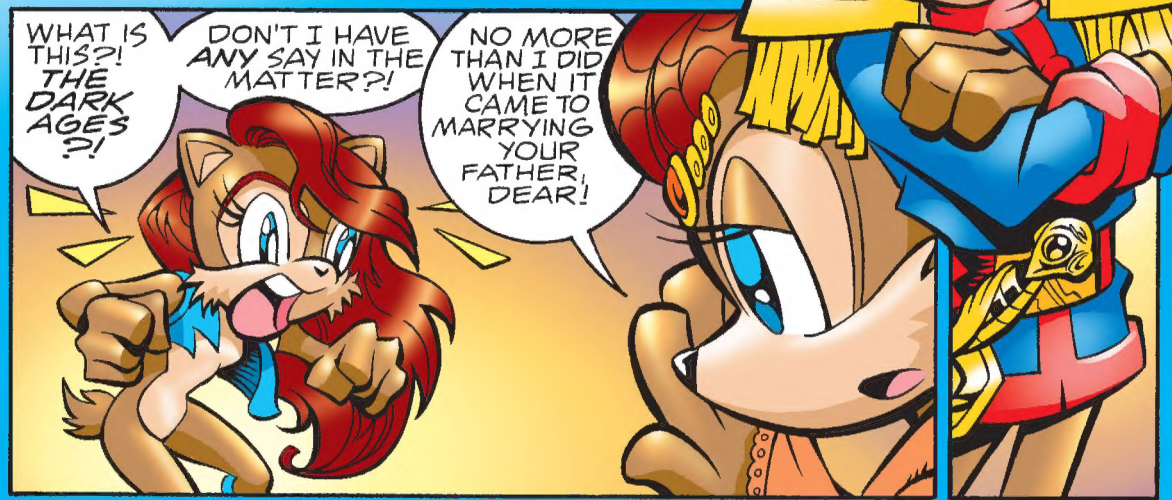
--WHICH REQUIRES YOU TO MARRY FOR THERE TO BE A KING!

MARRY?! WHO?!!!



ANTOINE ?!!!

SHE HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO BOW TO ZEE INEVITABLE!



WHAT IS THIS?! THE DARK AGES?!

DON'T I HAVE ANY SAY IN THE MATTER?!

NO MORE THAN I DID WHEN IT CAME TO MARRYING YOUR FATHER, DEAR!



OUR MARRIAGE WAS ARRANGED BEFORE WE EVEN KNEW ONE ANOTHER, SALLY. IT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT--

--BUT IT'S BEEN LOVE EVER SINCE!



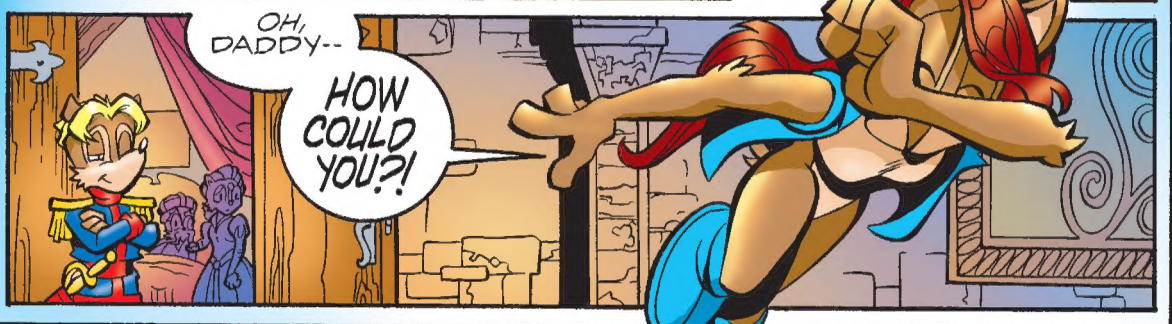
AND THAT MAKES IT RIGHT FOR ME TO GO THROUGH WITH THIS--

--THIS FARCE?!



I'M JUST GRATEFUL THAT DISASTER ENDED BEFORE YOU MARRIED THAT COMMONER!

NEED I REMIND YOU WHAT HAPPENED WHEN YOU LET YOUR HEART BE YOUR JUDGE?



OH, DADDY--

HOW COULD YOU?!

LATER, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF KNOTHOLE...

DINGDONG

YOU'RE A NATURAL WITH THAT GUITAR, SON!

HOW ABOUT PLAYING STRAWBERRY VALLEY FOR ME?

AWW, MOM!

THAT SONG IS SOOO LAME--

WE'LL DISCUSS THIS FURTHER AFTER I SEE WHO'S AT THE DOOR!

SAVED BY THE BELL!

POOR MOM! HER FAVES ARE JUST SO YESTERDAY!

BUNNIE! WHAT BRINGS YOU TO MY CRIB, BABE?

HEY! WHY THE SOUR PUSS?

--EVEN THE SCHOOL BAND WON'T PLAY IT!

I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY THIS!

I WAS VISITING WITH SALLY AND--

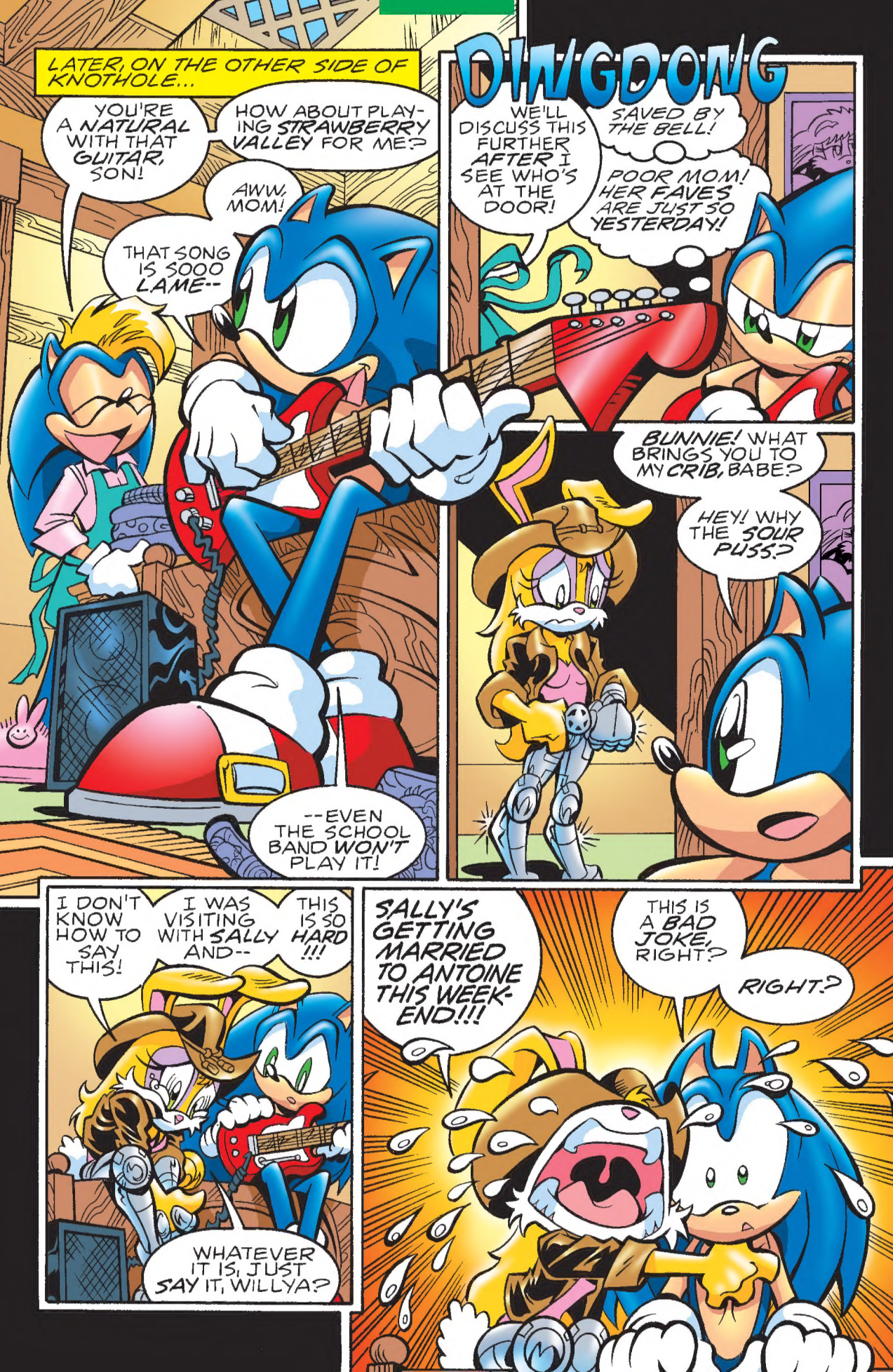
THIS IS SO HARD!!!

SALLY'S GETTING MARRIED TO ANTOINE THIS WEEK-END!!!

THIS IS A BAD JOKE, RIGHT?

RIGHT?

WHATEVER IT IS, JUST SAY IT, WILLYA?



OKAY,
SO SALLY
SLAPPED ME
IN FRONT OF
EVERYONE--

--TO SAY
NOTHING ABOUT
THE WAY SHE
RAGGED ON
ME AT THE
TIME--

--AND SURE,
I WAS FURIOUS
WITH HER FOR
THE LONGEST
TIME--

--BUT FOR HER
TO UP AND MARRY
ANTOINE WITHOUT
TELLING ME?!

THAT
JUST
AIN'T
RIGHT!

STOP
WHERE
YOU
ARE!

HAVE YOU AN
APPOINTMENT TO
MEET WITH ANYONE
INSIDE?!

OH,
STUFF
IT,
TWAN!

SINCE
WHEN DO I
NEED ONE?

I'M
SERIOUS,
MON
AMI!

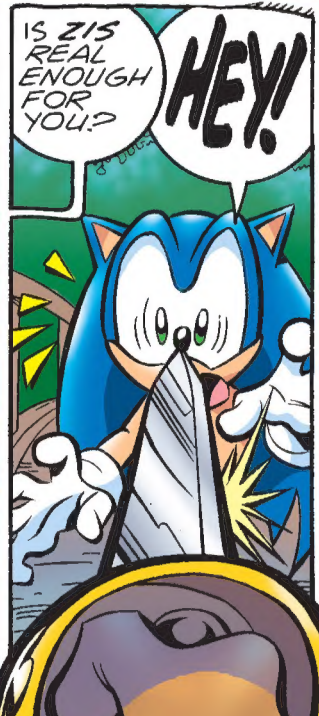
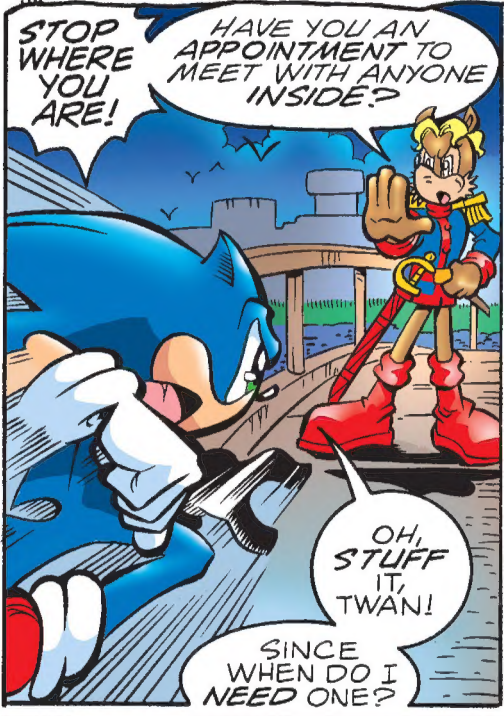
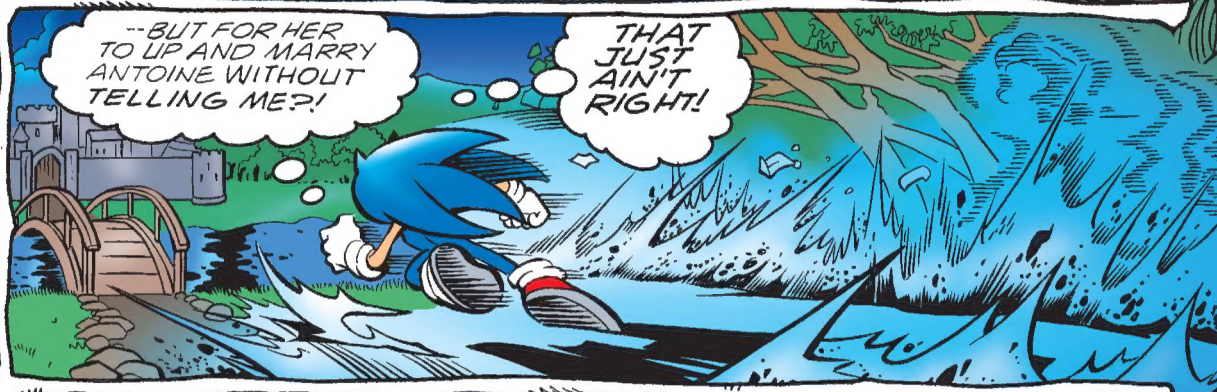
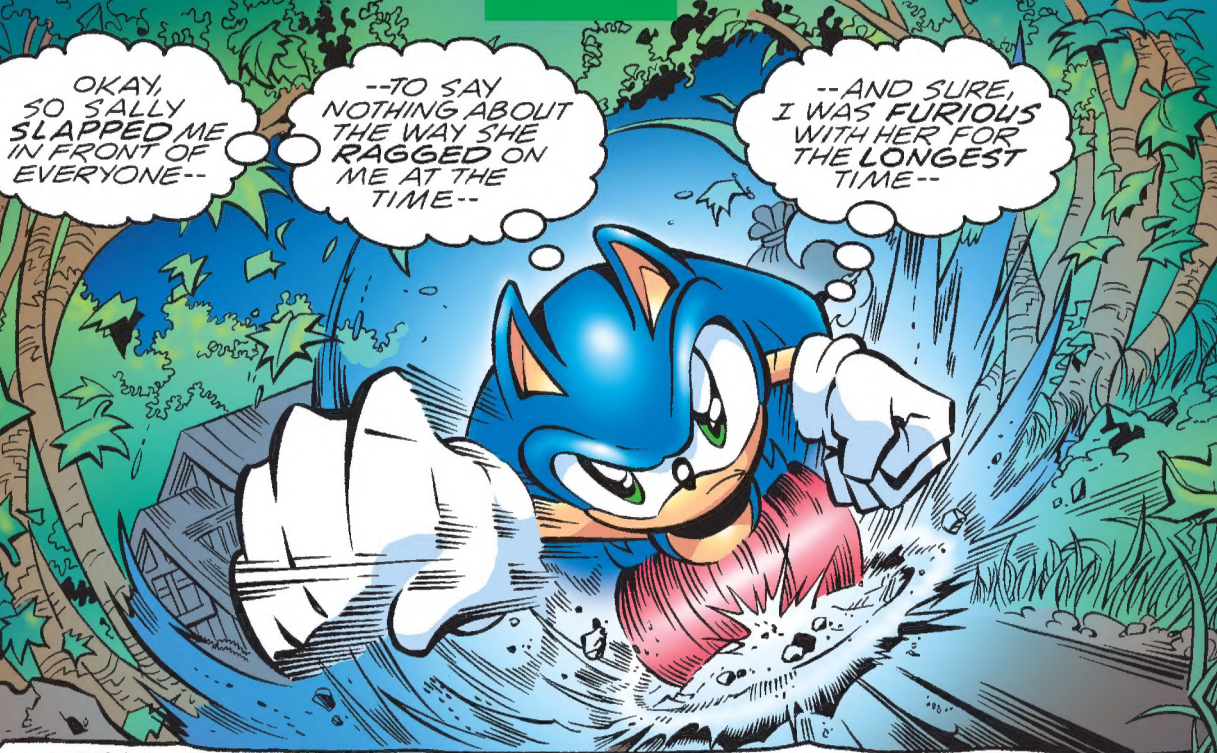
YOU TAKE
ONE MORE
STEP WITH-
OUT PER-
MISSION,
AND IT'LL
BE YOUR
LAST!

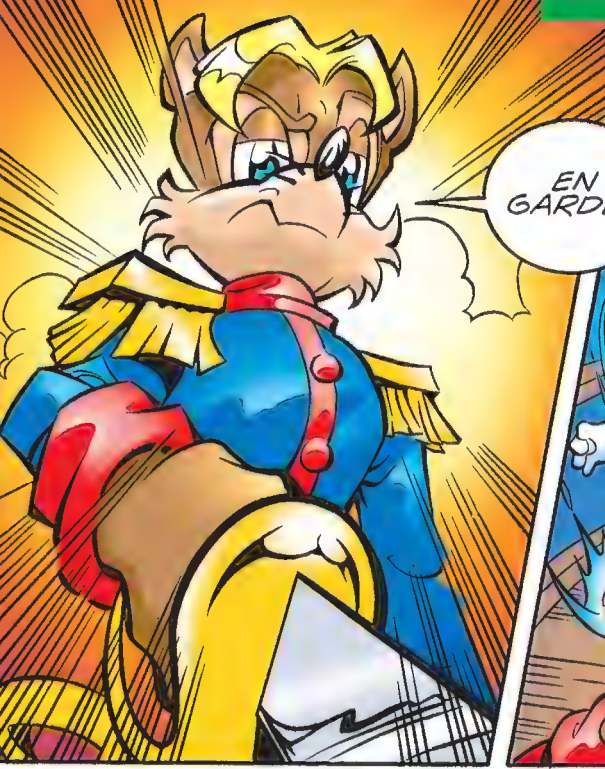
SAYS
WHO?
YOU?!!!

GET
REAL!!!

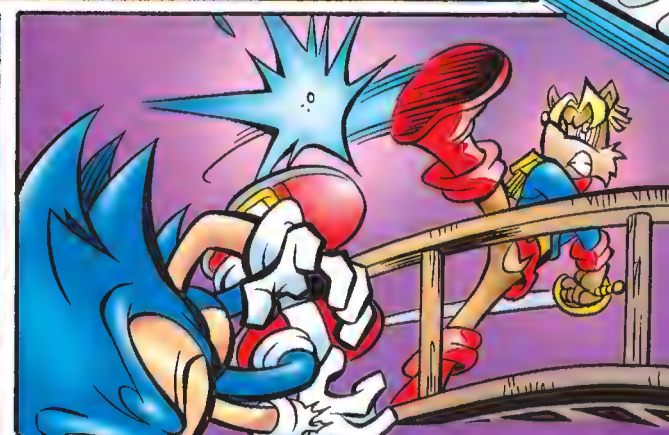
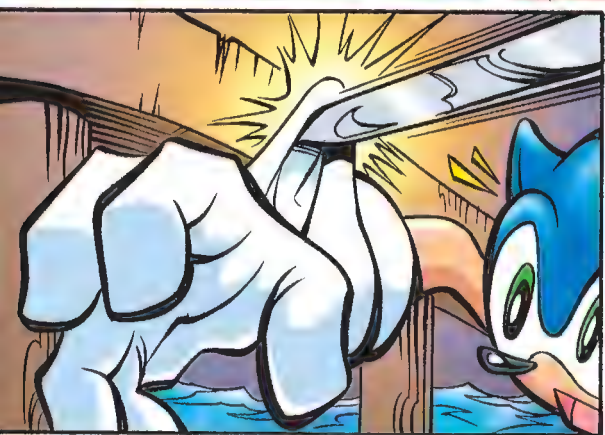
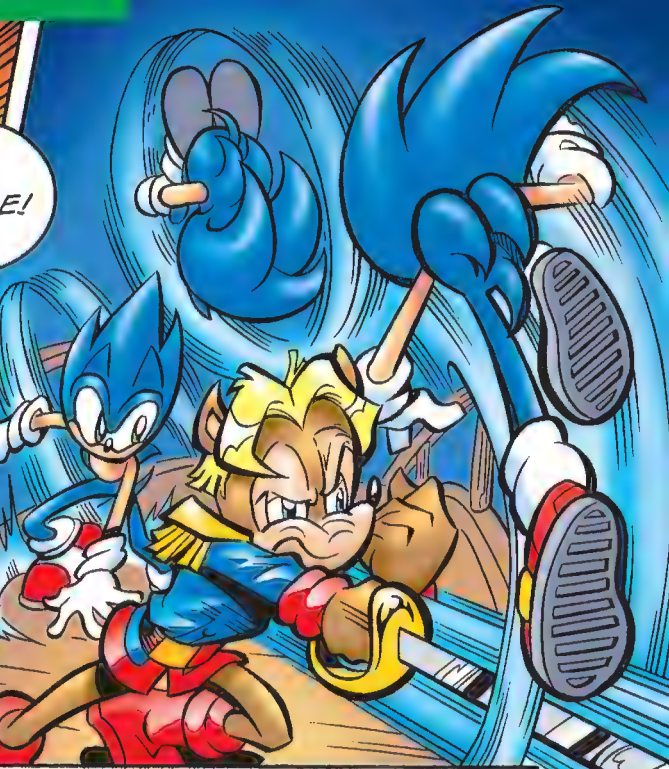
IS THIS
REAL
ENOUGH
FOR YOU?

HEY!



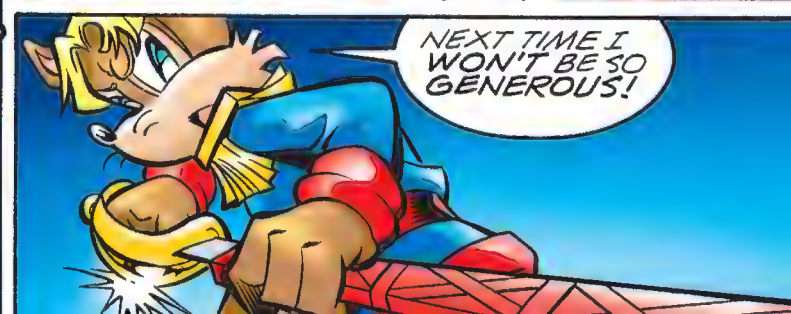


EN GARDE!

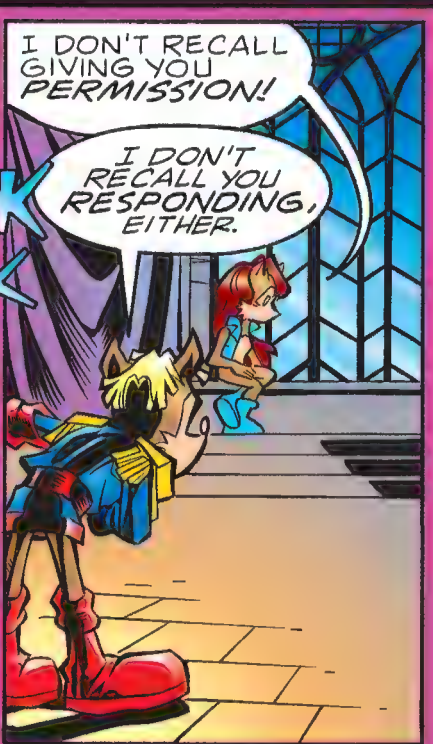
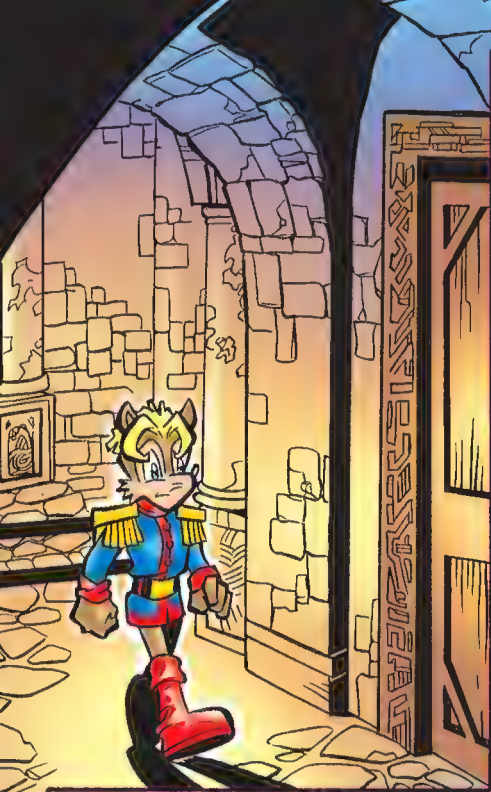


I COULD HAVE GUTTED YOU AS A THREAT TO THE THRONE--

--SO CONSIDER THIS A FRIENDLY WARNING, MONSIEUR!



NEXT TIME I WON'T BE SO GENEROUS!



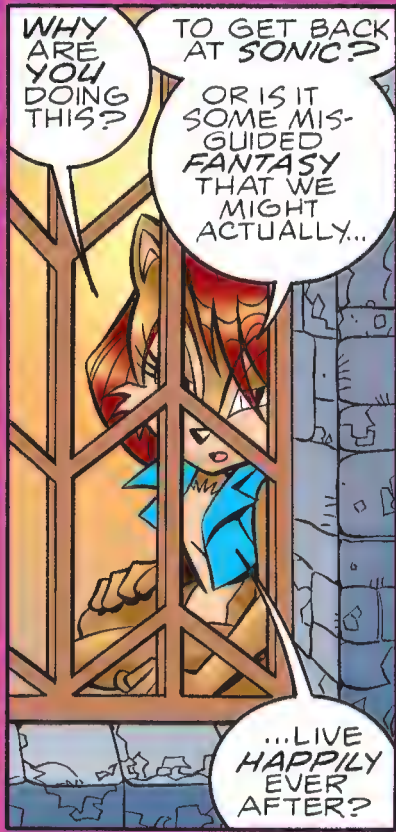
MON PRINCESS, IT IS I...ANTOINE.

MAY I COME IN?

Knock
Knock

I DON'T RECALL GIVING YOU PERMISSION!

I DON'T RECALL YOU RESPONDING, EITHER.



WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?

TO GET BACK AT SONIC?

OR IS IT SOME MISGUIDED FANTASY THAT WE MIGHT ACTUALLY...

...LIVE HAPPILY EVER AFTER?



ZIS MAY COME AS A SHOCK TO YOU, MON CHERIE--

--BUT I HAVE NO WISH TO MARRY YOU ANY MORE THAN YOU DO ME.

THEN WHY?

SOMEBODY-- PLEASE-- MAKE SOME SENSE OF ALL THIS!



FOR SOME OF US, THE WORDS "DUTY," "HONOR," AND "OBIGATION TO ONE'S KING" ARE REASON ENOUGH!

SURELY YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, CAN UNDERSTAND ZAT!

IT'S JUST THAT I WAS HOPING FOR THE FAIRY TALE!

BUT COME THE FOLLOWING MORNING, MATTER'S TAKE A TURN FOR THE WORSE...

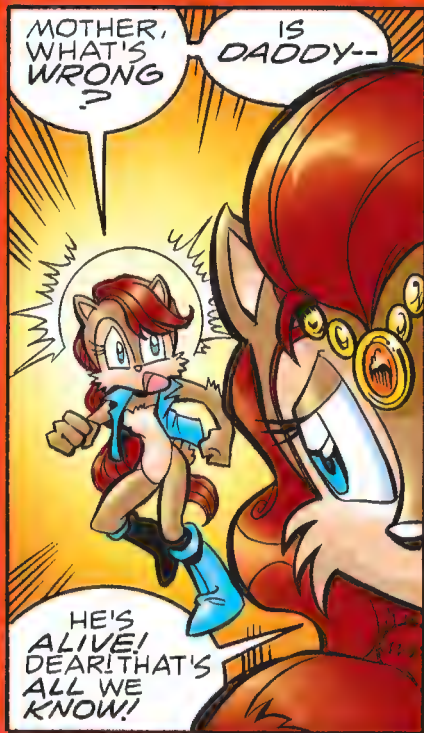
COMMANDER! HAVE YOU BEEN MAKING SURE THE KING'S BEEN TAKING HIS MEDICATION?

I GAVE HIM THE REQUIRED DOSAGE WITH DINNER, AND WAS ABOUT TO WHEN BREAKFAST WAS SERVED!



MOTHER, WHAT'S WRONG?

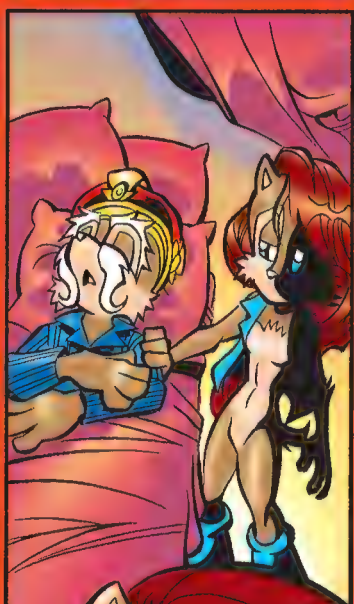
IS DADDY--



HE'S ALIVE! DEAR! THAT'S ALL WE KNOW!

THE KING IS IN A COMA!

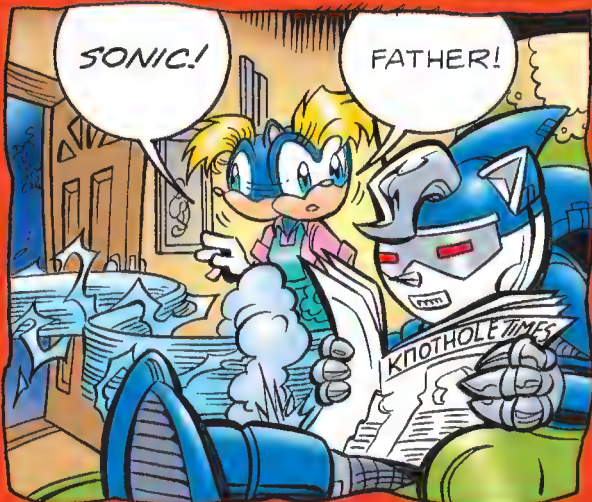
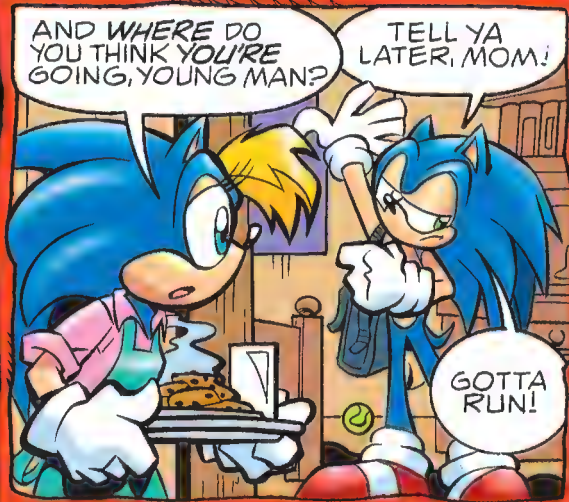
HOW LONG HE'LL BE LIKE THIS IS ANYONE'S GUESS!



COMMANDER D'COOLETTE, PLEASE SEND FOR MY BRIDES-MAIDS!

I'VE A WEDDING TO PREPARE!





"--BUT YOU HAVE TO HOPE FOR THE BEST..."

I COULD CRASH THE PARTY, TAKE SALLY AWAY FROM THE SCENE, AND DEAL WITH THE FALLOUT LATER!

ON THE OTHER HAND, I COULD PLAY IT SMART AND SEE IF THE ONE PERSON WHO CAN HELP IS WILLING TO!

OPTION A OR B?

AND SO IT COMES TO PASS...

WHETHER IT'S PRE-ORDAINED OR THE LUCK OF THE DRAW--

--FOR BETTER OR WORSE...

--THIS IS MY DESTINY!

IT'S NOT LIKE I'D BE MARRYING AN OGRE!

SO WHY AM I SO UNHAPPY?

IT'LL TAKE A WHILE-- BUT I'LL GET OVER HIM--

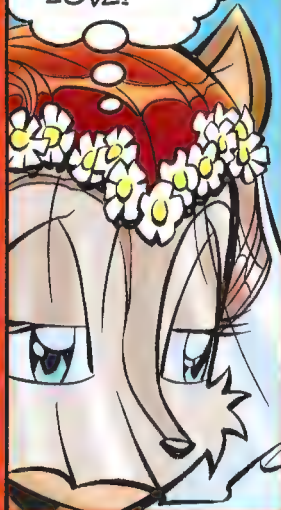
DEARLY BELOVED, WE ARE GATHERED HERE TODAY IN THE SPIRIT OF JOINING TWO BEINGS IN THE BOND OF MATRIMONY.

ANTOINE HAS A LOT OF POSITIVE ASPECTS A GIRL COULD LOVE!

IT'S NOT LIKE SONIC DIDN'T HAVE HIS CHANCE!

...EVENTUALLY!

DO YOU-- SALLY ALICIA ACORN-- TAKE ANTOINE D'COOLETTE TO BE YOUR LAWFUL SPOUSE--UNTIL DEATH DO YOU PART?



CONCLUDED NEXT ISSUE!

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG

PRESENTS

DULCY

THE DRAGON

IN THE PRICE OF FLAME PART ONE

DULCY LIGHTS MY FIRE!

IT'S A SURPRISE PEP RALLY TO CELEBRATE ALL THE TIMES YOU'VE HELPED THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS, DULCY!

ON DRAGON!

UULPE!
G-GOSH... I-I-
UMMM...
CHOOKE!

WE ♥
DULCY

C'MON GUEST OF HONOR...
IGNITE THE BONFIRE
WITH YOUR FLAME
BREATH!

WRITES: MIKE GALLAGHER
DRAWS: ART MAWHINNEY
INKS/LETTERS: MIKE HIGGINS
COLORS: JASON JENSEN

OH MY!

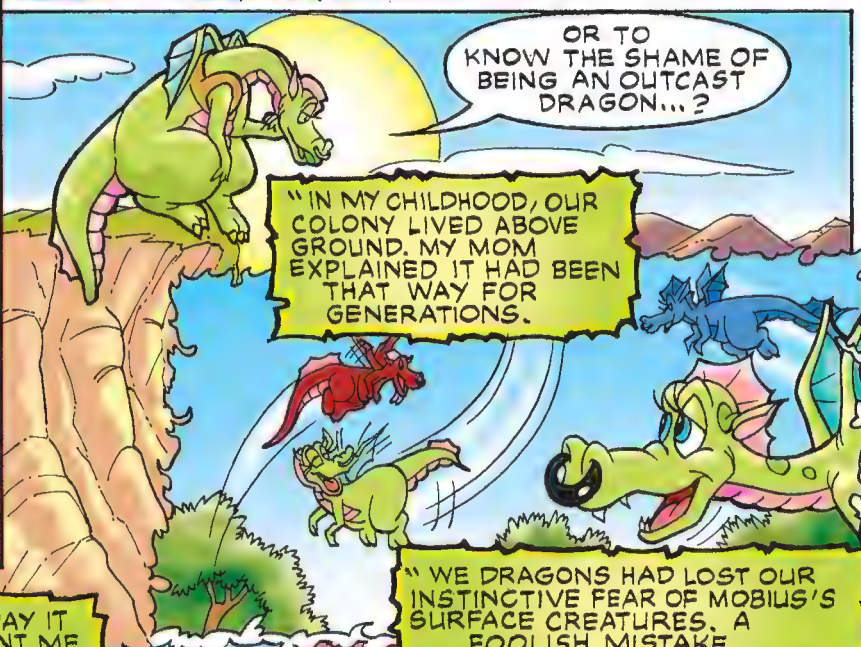
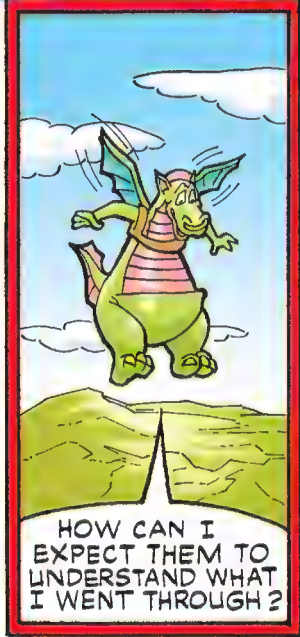
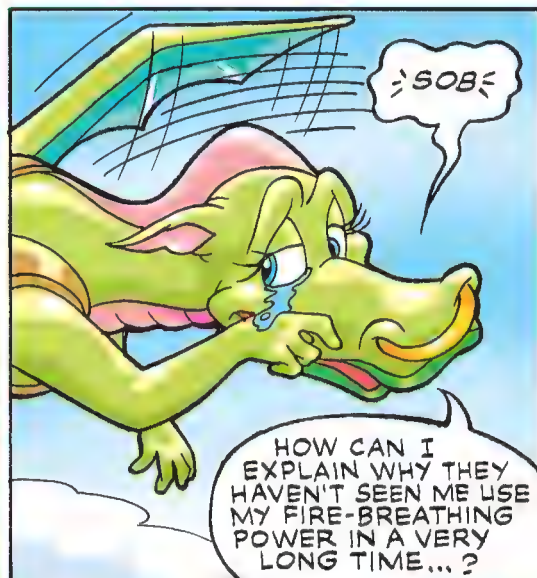
WHOA!
KOFF-KOFF!:

ZROOSH



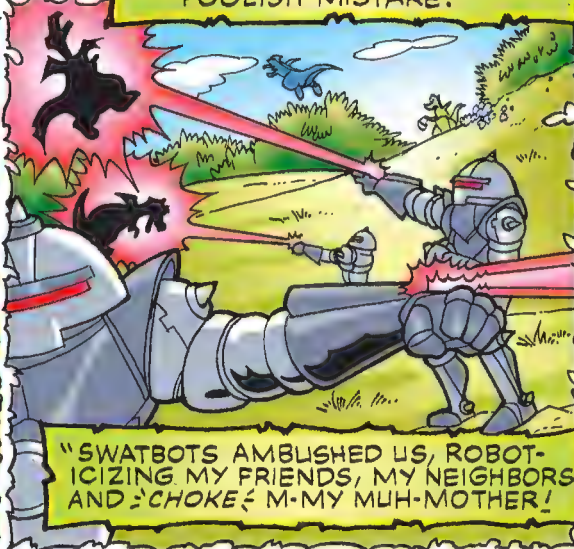
WHAT A STRANGE REACTION!
ALL I DID WAS ASK HER TO
LIGHT THE KINDLING!

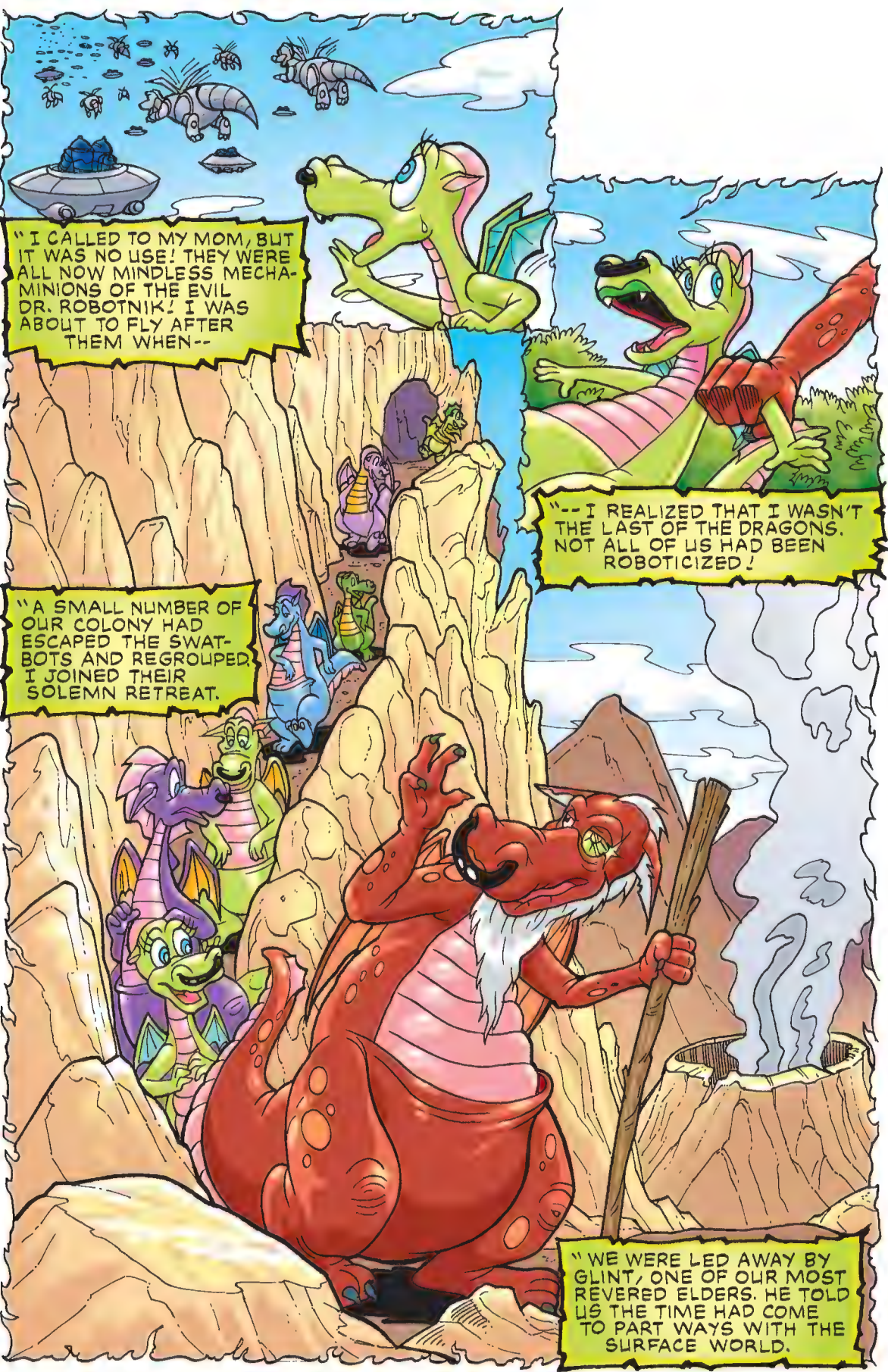
YOU KNOW, SAL...
IT OCCURS TO ME
THAT WE HAVEN'T
SEEN DULCY USE
HER FIRE-BREATHING
POWERS IN A VERY
LONG TIME...



"I REMEMBER THE DAY IT
HAPPENED. MOM SENT ME
TO PICK WHIFFLEBERRIES.
WHEN I CAME BACK OVER
THE HILL, I SAW IT...

"WE DRAGONS HAD LOST OUR
INSTINCTIVE FEAR OF MOBIUS'S
SURFACE CREATURES. A
FOOLISH MISTAKE.



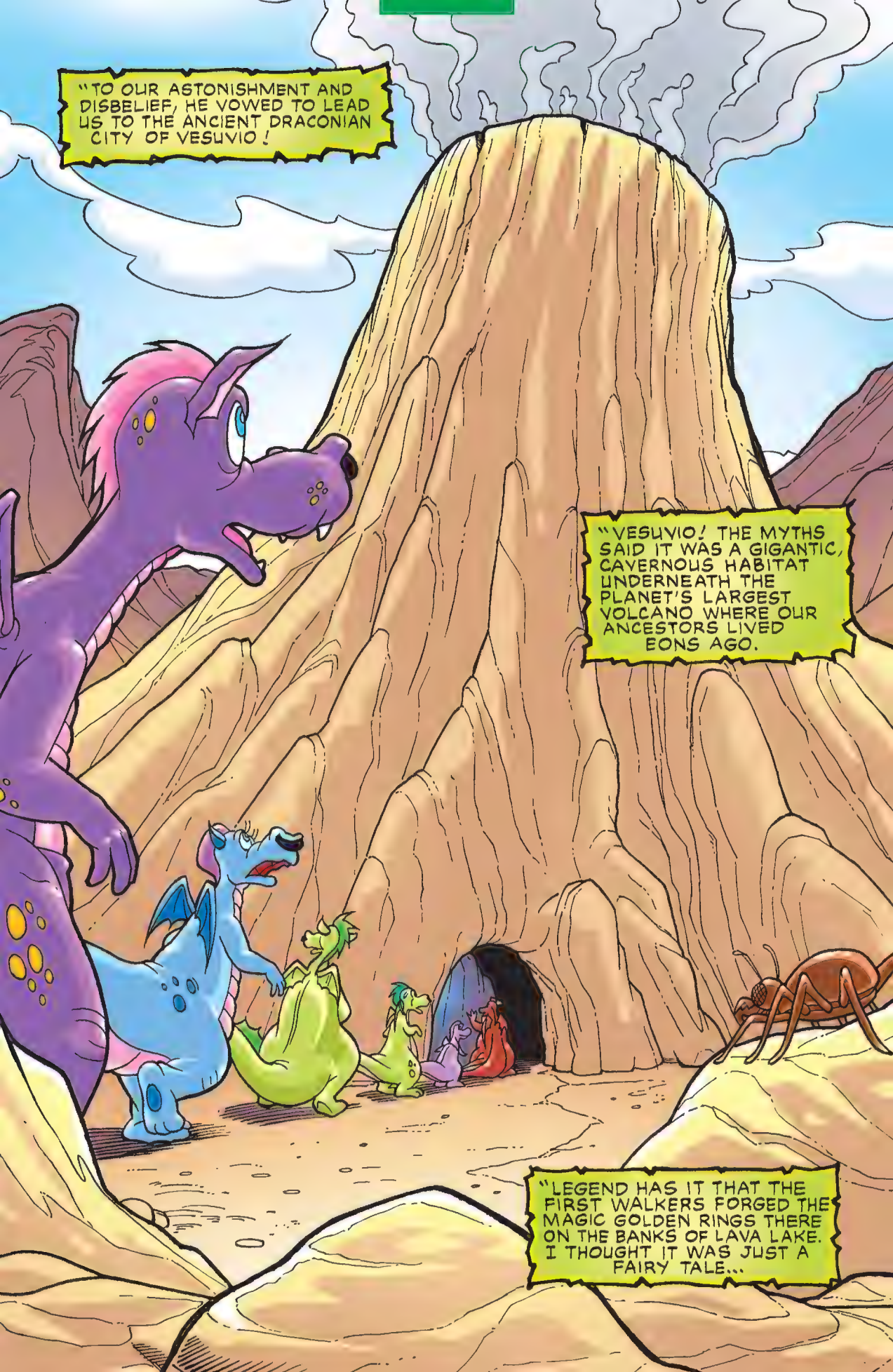


" I CALLED TO MY MOM, BUT IT WAS NO USE! THEY WERE ALL NOW MINDLESS MECHAMINIONS OF THE EVIL DR. ROBOTNIK! I WAS ABOUT TO FLY AFTER THEM WHEN--

"-- I REALIZED THAT I WASN'T THE LAST OF THE DRAGONS. NOT ALL OF US HAD BEEN ROBOTICIZED!

"A SMALL NUMBER OF OUR COLONY HAD ESCAPED THE SWAT-BOTS AND REGROUPED. I JOINED THEIR SOLEMN RETREAT.


" WE WERE LED AWAY BY GLINT, ONE OF OUR MOST REVERED ELDERS. HE TOLD US THE TIME HAD COME TO PART WAYS WITH THE SURFACE WORLD.




"TO OUR ASTONISHMENT AND DISBELIEF, HE VOWED TO LEAD US TO THE ANCIENT DRACONIAN CITY OF VESUVIO!

"VESUVIO! THE MYTHS SAID IT WAS A GIGANTIC, CAVERNOUS HABITAT UNDERNEATH THE PLANET'S LARGEST VOLCANO WHERE OUR ANCESTORS LIVED EONS AGO.


"LEGEND HAS IT THAT THE FIRST WALKERS FORGED THE MAGIC GOLDEN RINGS THERE ON THE BANKS OF LAVA LAKE. I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST A FAIRY TALE..."




"BUT GLINT DELIVERED US TO THE FABLED CITY! TO OUR SURPRISE, OTHER DRAGONS WHO MANAGED TO ESCAPE ROBOTNIK'S ATTACKS HAD ALSO JOURNEYED THERE.





"SADDENED BY OUR LOSSES, BUT DETERMINED TO SURVIVE, WE RE-COLONIZED VESUVIO AND ESTABLISHED A COMMUNITY WITH GLINT IN CHARGE.



"I MISSED THE OUTSIDE WORLD TERRIBLY. YEARS LATER, I DISCOVERED A FISSURE IN THE VOLCANIC WALL THROUGH WHICH I COULD SEE, HEAR AND SMELL MY FORMER HOME.



"HE QUICKLY MADE IT CLEAR THAT ANY AND ALL CONTACT WITH THE "UPPER-WORLD" WAS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN. VIOLATION OF THIS RULE MEANT PERMANENT BANISHMENT.



"EVENTUALLY, I COULDN'T RESIST IT. I SNUCK OUT AND ONCE AGAIN FELT THE FRESH AIR UNDER MY WINGS. IT WAS WONDERFUL!

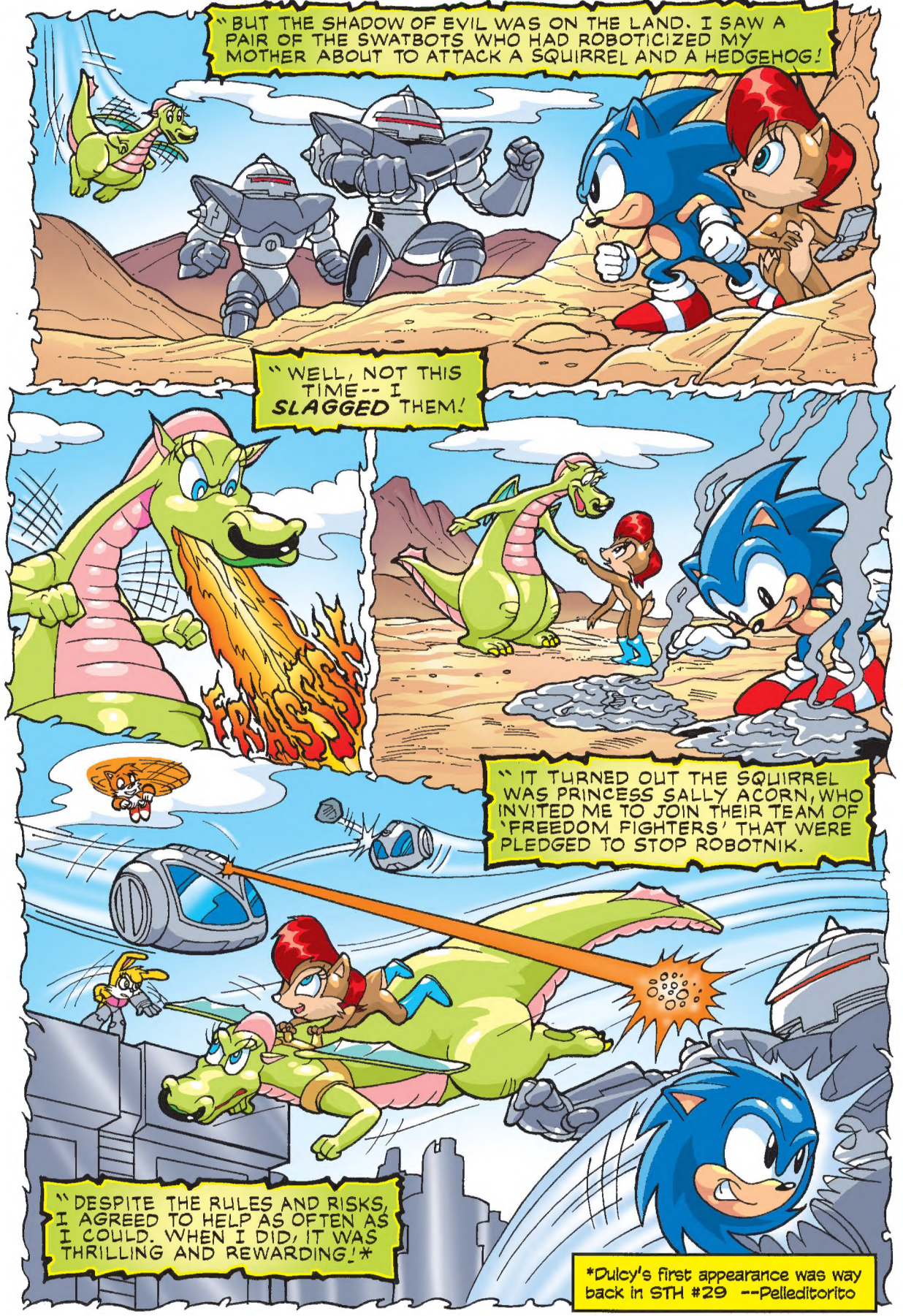
" BUT THE SHADOW OF EVIL WAS ON THE LAND. I SAW A PAIR OF THE SWATBOTS WHO HAD ROBOTICIZED MY MOTHER ABOUT TO ATTACK A SQUIRREL AND A HEDGEHOG!

" WELL, NOT THIS TIME -- I SLAGGED THEM!

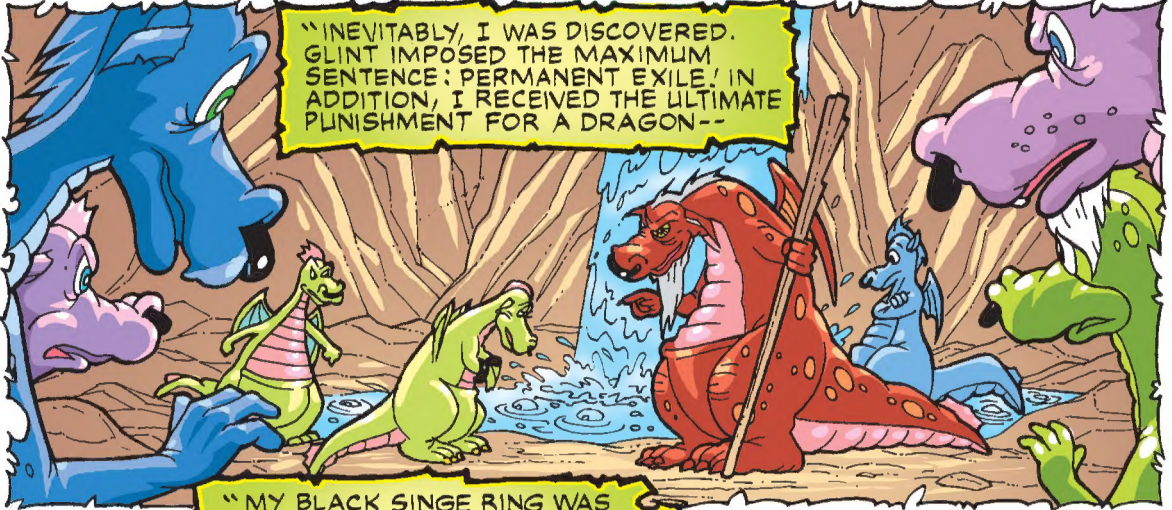
" IT TURNED OUT THE SQUIRREL WAS PRINCESS SALLY ACORN, WHO INVITED ME TO JOIN THEIR TEAM OF 'FREEDOM FIGHTERS' THAT WERE PLEDGED TO STOP ROBOTNIK.

" DESPITE THE RULES AND RISKS, I AGREED TO HELP AS OFTEN AS I COULD. WHEN I DID, IT WAS THRILLING AND REWARDING!*

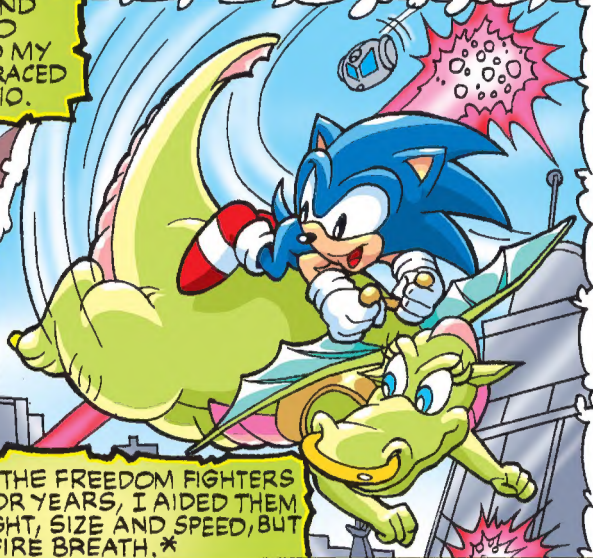
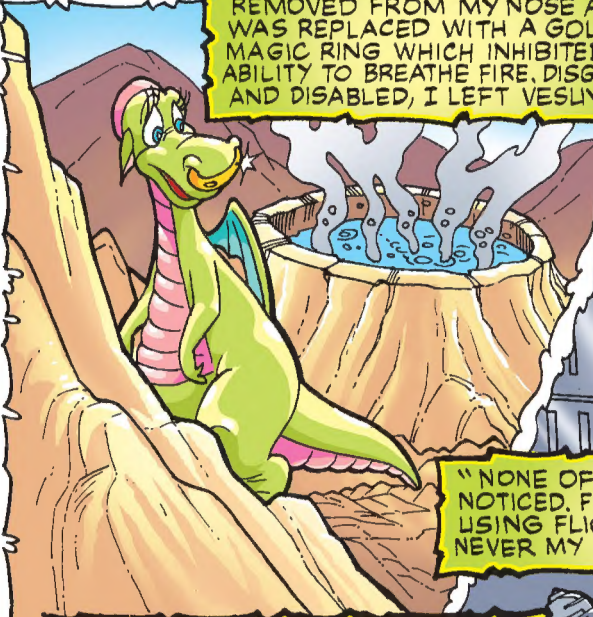
*Dulcy's first appearance was way back in STH #29 --Pelleditorito



"INEVITABLY, I WAS DISCOVERED. GLINT IMPOSED THE MAXIMUM SENTENCE: PERMANENT EXILE! IN ADDITION, I RECEIVED THE ULTIMATE PUNISHMENT FOR A DRAGON--



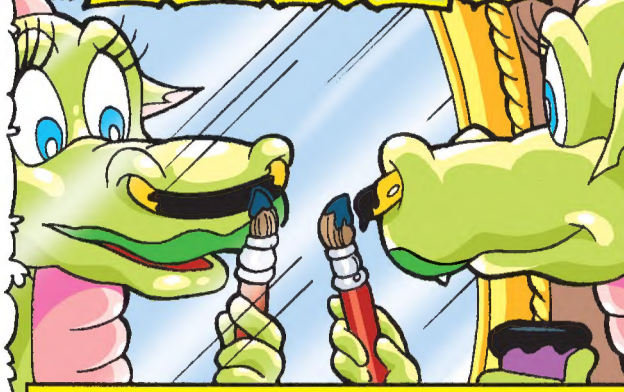
"MY BLACK SINGE RING WAS REMOVED FROM MY NOSE AND WAS REPLACED WITH A GOLD MAGIC RING WHICH INHIBITED MY ABILITY TO BREATHE FIRE. DISGRACED AND DISABLED, I LEFT VESUVIO.



"NONE OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS NOTICED. FOR YEARS, I AIDED THEM USING FLIGHT, SIZE AND SPEED, BUT NEVER MY FIRE BREATH.*

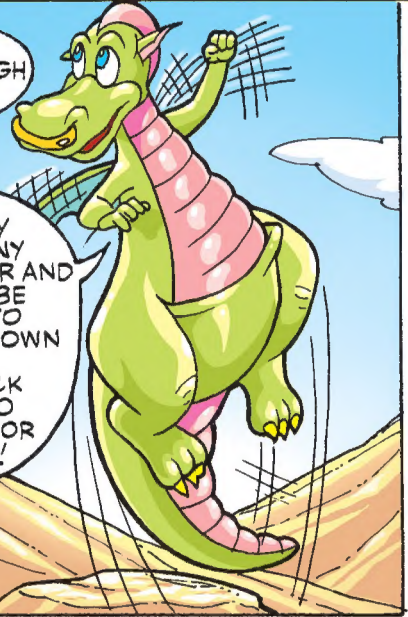
*Check the archives, folks! The last time Dulcy breathed fire was that same STH #29! --The Mikester

"I SOMETIMES GOT SO DEPRESSED ABOUT IT THAT I PAINTED MY NOSE RING BLACK, BUT IT NEVER LASTED AND I ALWAYS FELT FOOLISH AFTERWARDS.**



WELL, I'M THROUGH LIVING A LIE!

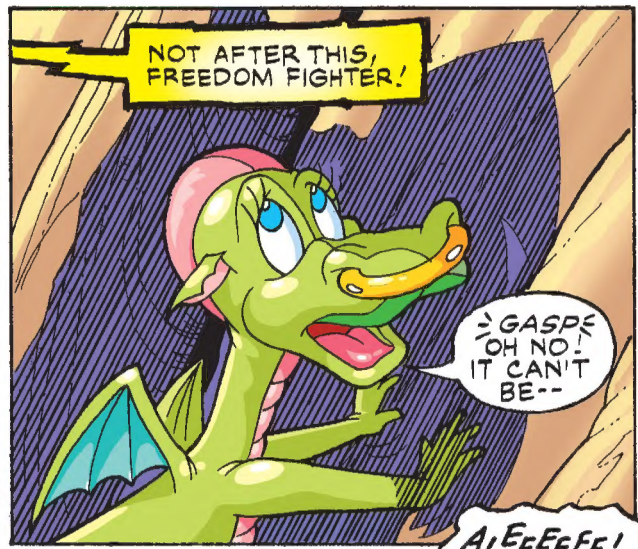
I'VE PROVEN MY WORTH MANY TIMES OVER AND I SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO REJOIN MY OWN KIND! I'M GOING BACK TO VESUVIO AND ASK FOR A PARDON!



**Dulcy's referring to the cover of STH #49. As for the cover & page 4 of Sonic Super Special #2, that story happened before she was exiled... HA! Thought you had me there for a minute, didn't you? --Empee



GOSH, I'M SO NERVOUS ABOUT GOING BACK INSIDE AFTER ALL THESE YEARS. I HOPE THEY'LL FORGIVE ME...



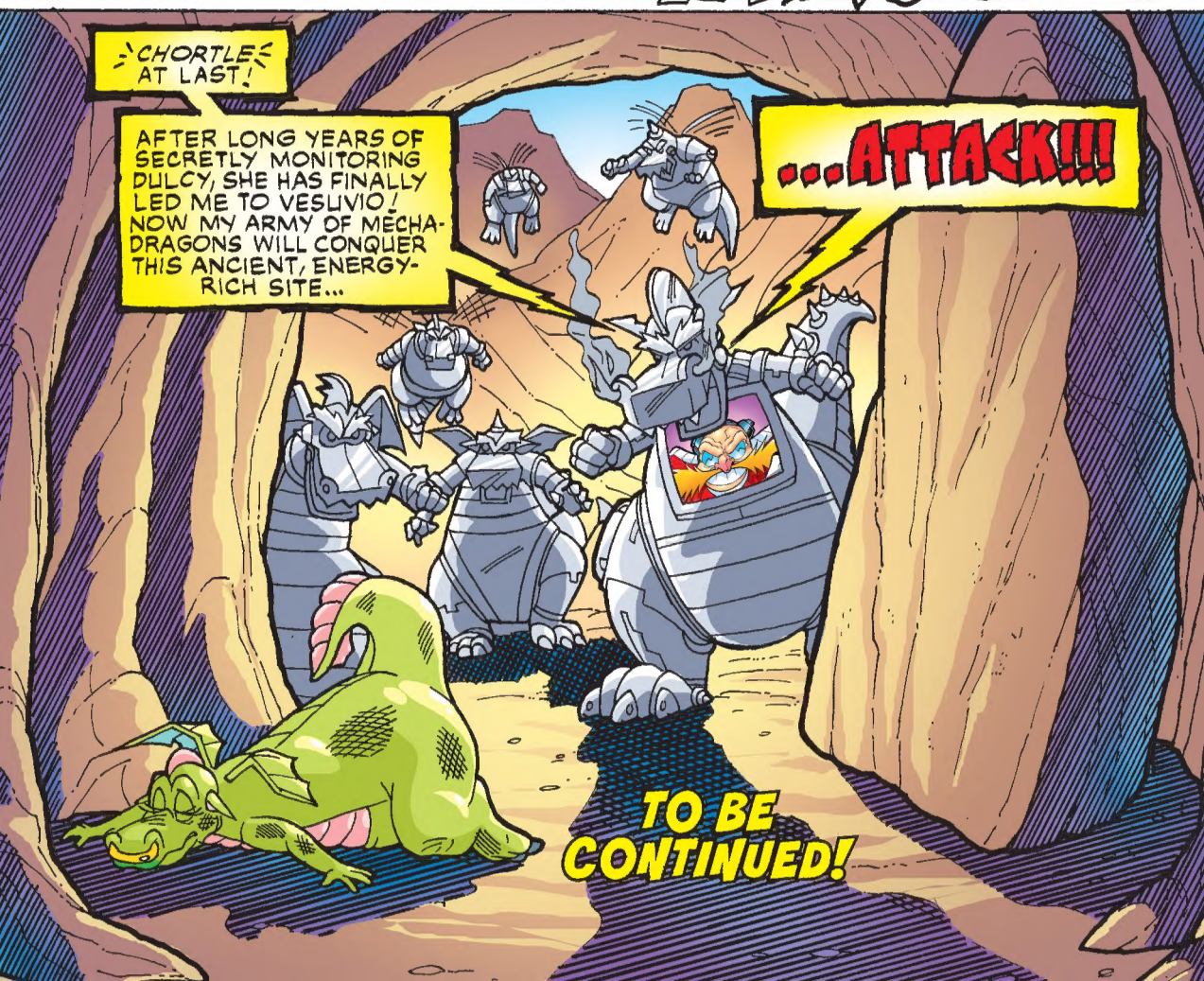
NOT AFTER THIS, FREEDOM FIGHTER!

GASP! OH NO! IT CAN'T BE--



AIEEEEE!

GHA-KOOOM!



CHORTLE AT LAST!

AFTER LONG YEARS OF SECRETLY MONITORING DULCY, SHE HAS FINALLY LED ME TO VESUVIO! NOW MY ARMY OF MECHA-DRAGONS WILL CONQUER THIS ANCIENT, ENERGY-RICH SITE...

...ATTACK!!!

TO BE CONTINUED!